

Draft  
Town of Mansfield Transportation Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting – December 20, 2012

Present: Frantz (chair), Ryan, Taylor, Hall, Aho, Goldman (guest – Browns Road), Painter (staff), Grunwald (staff), Hultgren (staff), Blanc (staff).

The meeting was called to order by Chair Frantz at 7:33 PM. Introductions were made. The minutes of the October 18, 2012 were reviewed and approved on a motion by Ryan/Taylor.

Hultgren summarized the current listing of walkway and bikeway priority projects on a map and spreadsheet. He noted that the listing was a compendium of requests that the Town has received over the years, and was not really a comprehensive plan for these facilities. Painter explained that the HUD-funded “Mansfield Tomorrow” project was going to help the Town react and plan for its changes (Storrs Center, UConn Tech Park, etc.) and the project would be developing a framework from which to plan for walkway and bikeway connections in Mansfield. The TAC will be able to participate in this process by reviewing drafts, providing input, etc.

As a follow-up to the October meeting’s discussion about unmet transportation needs in Mansfield, Grunwald handed out copies of a recent Mansfield Advocates for Children student project on transportation needs for children in Mansfield. He noted that there is no bus stop at the Mansfield Library and the Route 32 corridor is without any public transportation services other than dial-a-ride.

Hultgren updated committee members on ongoing transportation-related projects noting that the new Stone Mill Road bridge was open, the Storrs Road/Dog Lane streetscape projects were approaching a winter shutdown and the transportation center building project was being rebid.

The Town Council’s referral of the South Eagleville walkway project was discussed. Goldman commented on information she had learned from residents at Glenn Ridge and the letter supporting the project was read from the agenda packet. Concern was expressed by most members that funding this project now, with Town funds, as opposed to funding other priority walkway/bikeway projects or using the \$400,000 to meet other transportation needs in Mansfield was difficult to justify without some type of comprehensive plan to go by. After considerable comment by all members and recognizing that the “Mansfield Tomorrow” planning effort to update the Town’s Plan of Conservation and Development was just underway, it was voted unanimously to recommend to the Council that funding of the South Eagleville walkway project be delayed until a more comprehensive plan was developed addressing the Town’s transportation needs. Hultgren will draft a letter to the Council/Manager for Chair Frantz to transmit this recommendation.

The Commission of Aging’s request for a bus shelter at the Community Center bus stop on South Eagleville Road was discussed. It was decided that staff would assemble more information on the need for bus shelters at all the Mansfield WRTD stops before making any recommendation on this matter.

The 2013 meeting dates were set and approved as follows (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays): March 12, May 14, July 9, Sept 10 & Nov 12. The next meeting was set for March 12<sup>th</sup> unless a special meeting is required prior to that date.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works